Volume 13
Issue 17

The
Underground
Voice of Scarborough Campus

Tuesday
January 25, 1994

NutShells

National

Slap on the Wrist

At the University of British Columbia, a man who feigned gunfire at the Montreal massacre memorial has been sentenced to 3 days off school. The man was quoted to say "I'm sorry that you saw it but I'm not sorry that I did it ." The administration had no comment on what he would have gotten if the gunfire was real.

Keeping Warm

It appears as though Laurier University does not believe in heating their residences over the holidays. A lonely, shivering student was forced to heat his room with an electrical stove element to keep warm. The heat produced from the element set off a heat sensor activating the fire alarm system. No fire, no damage, no fine and no sympathy from the administration.

Anything to Keep Warm

At Laurier University a staff member reported seeing a vehicle parked with an occupant inside. Fearing that the person would freeze inside the car they called in the Campus Police. An officer reported to the scene and ascertained that there were in fact two people in the car and they were not sleeping (how did they keep warm?).

Local

Quorum

During the December 7 meeting of the College Council a ten minute break had to be requested so that those present could go and search out enough members to make quorum.

No Power

Eastern North York had no power when the Underground went to press on Sunday. Of course, that strike by hydro workers has nothing to do with it..

photo by: Matthew Clements

Scarborough still struggles with wheelchair accessability, as a student ponders how to get into S-357.

University of North Carolina Students Enjoy Themselves Despite Cold

Jennifer Baird
Staff

The University of Toronto, Scarborough Campus played host to 40 University of North Carolina students over this past weekend.

The exchange this year was culturally diverse. Chapel Hill is a small university town so although no one participating in the exchange was a native of Chapel Hill there were students from just outside the town and from as far away as Greece, Scotland and England.

After their almost 24 hour bus ride, places in residences were found for the exhausted students to rest. Everyone regrouped in The Attic at 8 pm for a "get acquainted" party with CSCR's DJ's **"The Techno Twins"** who kept the dance floor jumping. **Nick Johnston** and **Jamie Whittle**, a UNC student born in Scotland, showed everyone how to party properly — wearing their kilts. **Pietro Mazzucco** who worked the door, said that all the North Carolina students were "very friendly people, but they should learn to handle their alcohol better." The evening turned out to be a great success despite all 150 of the students being cut off at the bar at midnight.

On Saturday, most of the Carolinians made it downtown to see the C.N. Tower, SkyDome, Yonge Street and the Eaton Centre, where most of them bought souvenirs of winter mitts and hats. **Chris Boswell**, a native North Carolinian, kept reminding all that it was "mighty cold up here".

The annual Brunswick House trip occurred on Saturday night. 200 tickets were sold throughout Scarborough, and, although it was mostly residence students on the bus ride down, the Pit was filled to its capacity of 500 people. **'Yoga Boy'**, **'Gutter Boy'**, and **'Drinkin' Buddy'** definitely showed they still had the drinking prowess they so proudly displayed when they were in Chapel Hill in October. The bouncers and waiters were all very lenient with the students, and no students were directly involved in any fights.

Sunday found the exchange students trekking up to Hart House Farm (Ignatieff House) located about 2 hours north-west of Scarborough College and owned by Hart House, UofT. Along with about 30 bunk-beds, they have a fire place, a full kitchen, a large cafeteria-style dining room and a communal bathroom. The Carolinians were just as impressed with the indoor plumbing up there as they were with the fact that Canadians don't live in igloos. "Hart House Farm was an over night great bonding experience," as **Craig Humphries** said. And although most didn't get any sleep, this just proves that rest was the furthest thing from the students' minds.

And in the words of the immortal **Shamus**, "FRIENDSHIP... mere letters formed into a word for most people, but those of us involved in the UofT/UNC exchange they formed an unbreakable bond."

Real Snow was also a great novelty. The only snow that the UNC students had ever seen was more like slush and that only happens maybe once a year in North Carolina. The only complaint heard all weekend was that it wasn't packing snow so there were no snowball fights.

After cleaning up Hart House Farm, Professor **Rick Powers** spoke to the students. The students found the lecture interesting and funny. Powers spoke about the differences between Chapel Hill and Toronto, between Canada and the USA, and included many humorous anecdotes. Although some exchangers missed this lecture they definitely would have heard all about it by the time they reached Chapel Hill.

Monday dinner consisted of either Mr. Wong's Super Chinese Buffet or Malibu's Wings. Those who went to Mr. Wong's were completely surprised at the amount of food and the choices. Chapel Hill does not have a resident Chinese Food restaurant.

When the exchange students boarded the bus everyone was upset and made promises to keep in touch. Many UofT students are hoping to go take the UNC students up on their offer to play hosts during our reading week.

As Pietro explained, the exchange is "a worthwhile undertaking, [UNC students] get to see a different culture... but they should learn to dress warmer. I think it should be funded [by SCSC]." No comment from administration on whether this would be feasible or possible for next year's exchange.

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News

Wen Do: What is it?

Helen Kuk
Staff

Wen Do is a self-defense course designed for women, and taught by a licensed female instructor. The next session is being offered in the Recreation Centre from January 27 to March 24. For $10, women will have 14 hours of instruction.

Surprisingly, only 6 women are currently enrolled in this course. These 14 hours could save your life.

"Wen Do" means "woman's way" in various Eastern languages. The techniques combine aspects of several martial arts, and are separated into 'soft' Wen Do and 'hard' Wen Do.

Soft Wen Do encompasses hits that merely incapacitate the attacker. Hard Wen Do will cause permanent damage and/or death. Both methods are practiced (civil), with new techniques added each week. The physical component of Wen Do is fairly straightforward, but alternative moves are also taught for those who have back, knee, or any other physical problems.

Legal repercussions of using 'body weapons' are discussed in this course, as well as relevant issues of violence against women. Rather than weapons, (which can be turned against you), women are encouraged and taught to use their bodies, and brains, against attackers. The instructor will ask students to think of possible scenarios that concern them, and will teach methods of getting out of these situations. While the course emphasizes physical methods of defense, it also stresses the mental aspects. Psychologically, it is very empowering.

Interested women should sign up at the Service Desk in the Rec. Centre. The charge for the Wen Do course is $10.

Arab Association Ski Trip

Stuart Wright
Contributor

On Friday, January 14, eighteen Scarborough College students braved "Arctic" weather conditions and participated in a post-holiday ski bash at Blue Mountain. Organized by members of the Arab Student's Association, the trip was a "fantastic bargain" and exceptional opportunity to meet people from other cultures.

Although the bitterly cold wind jolted the students (-28° with wind-chill), the bright sunshine and rosy faces of the skiers masked the bite of the cold.

Throughout the day skiing proceeded very smoothly, with well groomed mountain slopes and clear visibility. Aside from a few line-ups at ski-lifts and the occasional snow squalls which obscured the view of Georgian Bay.

One minor exception was the "technical" problems experienced by the Gray-Coach bus, which temporarily broke down on Highway 400; somewhere between Maple and King City. With rounds of encouraging statements and the occasional curse by some anxious students wanting to "hitch-hike to the Moguls," the frozen bus magically started once the driver finished his cigarette. The entourage pressed ahead without further incident. This small delay did little to dampen the spirits of the highly motivated, die-hard ski enthusiasts whose focus remained solely on the day's skiing.

The group constituted a vast array of UofT students both Arab and non-Arab alike.

Another distinguishing characteristic of this ski trip was its medium as a forum for cultural exchange. The group constituted a vast array of UofT students both Arab and non-Arab alike. As a microcosm of the Middle East and North America, the ski bash was an ideal opportunity to discuss different perspectives on a variety of subjects, both cultural and athletic in nature.

Although alcohol was available, and many involved had ample opportunity to partake, few students got inebriated. This fact alone distinguishes it from other UofT affiliated ski trips of recent memory. I am proud to say that responsible drinking was the norm amongst this group. Skiing was the primary objective and all who participated came away with a newfound respect for the power and beauty of Mother Nature.

There were other activities available when one was not on the thirty-odd ski slopes. Throughout the day, the ski-troop gathered for a hearty lunch and snacks in the Main Dinning Lounge, in the central Blue Mountain Lodge. As a recent participant to down-hill skiing, I would highly recommend the facilities at Blue Mountain. The staff was very friendly and extremely courteous. They answered any questions on a variety of topics- short of next week's Middle East politics test. I cannot emphasize enough the profound smiles and warmth that was beamed by these people. Service at the rental and equipment shops was expeditious and sociable. The fitting rooms were a fine place to meet fellow skiers and seek tips.

Having not skied for several years, I was surprised by the number of snow-board enthusiasts that dominated several slopes. Beginners wanting to wet their skiing feet should take a close look at boarding, as one participant put it. Although slower in pace, the activity of snow-boarding can be learned quickly, without many of the risks associated with down hill skiing.

However, don't fool yourself into thinking that this is a basic substitute for down-hill skiing. Having witnessed many refined boarders, who demonstrated their unique styles, I have gained a profound new respect for the sport. Moreover, I predict interest in snow-boarding will grow in future, with competitions and rallies already becoming commonplace at many resorts.

In conclusion, I would recommend students to keep their eyes open for similar bargain trips in the future. The Arab Student's Association (ASA), like other active university groups, is an excellent venues to meet new friends and participate in shared interests. It is ironic that of all possible groups to organize a ski trip, (and get me on downhill skis), that the Arab Student's Association was the first cultural group to do so this year. This is remarkable considering that many began skiing only when they came to Canada, and I have lived here my whole life.

I would like to thank members of the ASA who went out of their way to invite non-members to participate in one of the best cultural exchange trips that Scarborough's Campus's has offered.

Campus DJs Defy Court Ban

WINNIPEG (CUP) – First-year journalism students Neil Hiebert and Craig Knapp knew exactly what they were doing when they broadcast banned details of the Karla Teale (Homolka) trial. The students at Winnipeg's Red River Community College were DJs at campus radio station CMOR.

Listeners got more than they bargained for from the duo's regularly-scheduled all-request hour when they featured details of the grisly Ontario child-murder case published in the Washington Post and Newsday.

Hiebert said he and Knapp realized they were breaking the law as they did it, but they believed there was a principle at stake. "We just didn't really agree with the whole principle behind the ban," Hiebert said. "Basically it's a form of censorship and we didn't agree with it at all, so we figured this would be our way of making a statement."

Their statement failed to impress the station management, who weren't informed about the broadcast, or the city police, who may have to press charges against the station and the DJs.

According to Winnipeg Police spokesperson Eric Turner, the Crown has instructed police to conduct an investigation into the incident.

The college station is a closed-circuit system and is not governed by federal broadcast regulations, so it is not in danger of losing its license. But Barbara Krever, a spokesperson for the attorney-general's office, said all breeches of the court-ordered ban are considered gravely, which means the students and the station could be charged with contempt of court.

The college station is a closed-circuit system... it is not in danger of losing its license.

The college's student council, which owns the station, has announced it will await the outcome of the police investigation before taking action. But in the meantime it has banned the students permanently from the station.

According to Hiebert, a classmate sent out media releases announcing the event. "We just figured if we're going to do it there's no sense hiding why we did it or deflecting publicity over it," said Hiebert.

Despite this, Hiebert maintains the incident was not just a publicity stunt.

"It was very homogenized stuff [that was broadcast]. There was a lot more crude details we could have publicized if it was purely for shock value or to get attention."

Radio manager Cory Petrachek said he had no knowledge of Hiebert and Knapp's plans until he was notified by a newspaper reporter seeking comment. Petrachek said that upon being notified of the broadcast he immediately took the duo off the air.

Promotions manager Don Beesley said the staff are upset about the duo's actions because the station could be endangered. "The majority of the staff here think it's a ridiculous publicity stunt."

The Underground

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All letters to the Editor must be typed or printed and delivered to **The Underground** before noon, Friday. The length of the letters must be restricted to 200 words or less. The student's name and ID number must be included. Submission does not guarantee use.
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Views

Why We Live in Canada

Where in the world would you rather be than Canada? Los Angeles, perhaps? Think of it: right this minute, you could be exploring lost worlds at the centre of the earth. Just a part of the natural theme park of California.

Of course, for those less keen on being crushed by falling expressways, could I interest you in a peace-keeping mission in the carcass of Yugoslavia? Witness ethnic cleansing in action, and take part in mock executions. The gun powder seems so real, you can almost smell it!

If you're really in the mood for adventure, try visiting the mighty Deutscheland and crying "I'm a Jew and proud of it" near a pack of skin heads. A good work out perhaps but not a place to take your first date.

If your wallet feels too heavy- go down to the States and get sick (any hospital will gladly take care of the overweight leather in your back pocket)

Canada, when you look at it comparatively ,is a relatively stable place to live. If you're sick, you can be taken care of by OHIP and other such programmes. If you're out of a job we'll give you compensation...you'll never go hungry in the streets here in the land where beavers have become national symbols on our currency.

Here in Canada we'll help you. After all, we have Dr. Stubbs and Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farms.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

The Better Way, Ha! It's not like this dungeon doesn't already depress me, but everyday's journey here is like my own private 2-hour B-grade horror movie. While there is only one way better than the Better Way, but there really is no other way to compare it to, so its got to be the better way, but it really ain't all that good.

Every winter we go through the same crap. They'll never learn at the TTC every year, as the coldapproaches, the twits switch buses and give us ones with smaller seats.What really irks me, though, are those stupid bus drivers who, despite it being -20°C, don't havethe heat turned on. We are all well aware of how cold it's been lately. Why would anyone driving in this weather, continuously opening and closing the doors, not have the heat on? If this bothers you, too, record the bus number route, and time and complain.

However, the profs and TTC drivers aren't the only ones making my mornings suck. Have you attempted the walk in from Ellesmere and Military Trail? Skis should be made available at the street corner to help us pedestrians make that walk in safety and comfort. Seriously, the folks here are doing a really bad job of keeping that walkway clean. If it's not actually shovelled and cleared,they can at least put down some salt. Well, those are my complaints for getting to school. Now if only I can do something about being here!

Greg Duklos

Question of the Week: *Did You Agree With the Bobbit Decision?*

"She should have been charged with assault because she did some harm." –Marvin K. Yeung

"I think it's a really good verdict, that she's taking a stand against him" –Alex Duff

"I just think it received to much publicity" –Sheela Mathew

"I think it's ridiculous, I think she should have been sent to jail." –Shelley Martin

"I just think that everybody should leave their penises out of it." –Emil Thorose

"I think it's wrong to call it a matter of the 'battle of the sexes'. It's a question of abuse." –Derek Westerholm

"I think that she was aware of what she was doing. The jury felt more pathos towards her, because she was abused, which distorted their views towards her insanity." –Anjali Mankotia

"No Comment" –Greg White

Health

Sugar or Sweetener?

by Shenif Ladak
Contributor

How many of us have actually considered what we consume in our pursuit of low-calorie nutrition? Most of the time, our search leads us to various foods and beverages that contain artificial sweeteners in order to reduce their overall caloric content. But have we ever thought about what these substances really are and if they are safe?

Saccharin and aspartame are the two most commonly used artificial sweeteners. Saccharin, the first manufactured alternative to sugar is 300 times sweeter than simple table sugar. Although having once been linked to incidences of bladder cancer, further research has not substantiated any definite conclusions or resulted in further evidence. In fact, at the level most of the population consumes saccharin, it is considered safe.

Aspartame, a protein consisting of aspartic acid and phenylalanine is 180-200 times sweeter than table sugar and is deemed safe for children, pregnant and nursing women, and people with diabetes. There are some, however, who suffer from a rare genetic disorder, phenylketonuria (or PKU), who lack the ability to metabolize the amino acid phenylalanine. Those afflicted should avoid products containing aspartame including Equal and Nutrasweet.

The Food and Drug Administration in the United States considers aspartame safe when consumed at a rate of 50mg/kg of bodyweight per day, that is, approximately 18-20 cans of diet cola. Some people, however, are particularly sensitive to aspartame and many experience mood changes, fatigue, headaches, dizzy spells, and even seizures (although these are quite rare).

A common concern for most individuals is whether or not they will actually lose weight by substituting these artficial sweeteners for sugar. Unfortunately, not to any great extent since most weight gain is due to fat intake and not sugar. Many athletes do consume diet beverages after a workout. However, to replenish the body's supply of fluids and carbohydrates, fruits and fruit juices are a much wiser choice.

Articial sweeteners do have a beneficial side effect – they don't promote cavities. Bacteria in the mouth break down sugar into an acid which promotes tooth decay. Since artificial sweeteners lack sugar, the bacteria have nothing to work with. As a result, your dentist will probably be happy!

Moderation is always the best rule of thumb to follow when it comes to dietary consumption. Although moderate consumption of artificial sweeteners will rarely do any harm, try to concentrate on a wholesome, lowfat meal plan to meet your everyday needs.

Careless Comments

Jonathan Careless
Contributor

Music is a drug and we're all addicts. That's not to say we're all junkies. Sadly, some of you out there are only casual users. You only listen to music while you eat your breakfast or, even worse, it only acts as an alarm on your clock radio. There's also the wannabe junkies. They're the type that might listen to it in the car, but not in really bad driving conditions because it throws off their concentration (hey if you can't handle the music get off the road).

But, I'm not talking about the first two types, I'm talking about all the rest. The hard-core-no-turning-back-junkies. We know who we are. We're the kind of people that not only wake up to our music, but also wake all our neighbors up to do it. We don't listen to music at breakfast because, well...we just don't eat breakfast.

Instead, we continue our day long listening experience on the way to school. In our cars? Hell no. We can't afford cars. We've already spent all our money on CD's. Instead we listen to it on the bus. On our Walkman's, on the bus. Music's our life. In fact, it's not only our life, but at the moment we're also making sure it's everyone else's life. We play it just loud enough so that it can't be ignored. But at the same time, we're careful not to play it to loud, lest heaven forbid, something more than just the cymbal hiss comes through and gives the song away.

Then, come weekends, while the wannabe junkies are out making their snow angels, (remember ...guys....friends don't let friends make snow angels and drive) and contemplating why Trix are for kids (except for that time when the rabbit did actually get some), we're inside having our minds blown by music that's much too loud for our own good. But it's not about good, for us the night clubs are the opium houses of the nineties. Music is a drug. Be an addict.

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Arts

Take a Trip To *Sin City*

by Wes Grant
Arts Editor

In my opinion, one of the most under-appreciated entertainment mediums is the comic. Many people have the misconception that it is strictly a medium for kids, and that comics are just "funny books." Anyone familiar, however, with the comic industry will know that this is not the case. Comics do range from the "funny pages" to the superhero genre and on to ones with more adult-themes.

One of the most influential writers and artists in the comic world is **Frank Miller**. His works include the groundbreaking revision of the Batman mythos, in such works as *The Dark Knight Returns* and *Batman:Year One*; to politically-themed work, such as *Give Me Liberty* and the upcoming *Martha Washington Goes To War*; and to such explosively violent tales as *Hard Boiled*. Miller's latest work, though, is the film noir-type crime stories that he has weaved in both ***Sin City*** and its sequel ***Sin City:A Dame To Kill For***.

Sin City is a the locale where Miller has his crime stories take place. It is not so much a "mega-story" as it is a series of inter-connected adventures. According to Miller, "Different characters will take the lead role. The only 'ending' the series would really have is if somebody nuked the whole town. I plan to keep doing it for a long, long time. I'm having a ball."

In the first two issue of this new six-issue series, *Sin City:A Dame To Kill For*, Miller introduces the readers to Dwight, a photographer who specialises in hard-to-get-shots. Unfortunately for him, though, they are incriminating, usually sleazy, shots – the kinds that lead to expensive, messy divorces. Dwight is trying to forget about his past and get on with his life, but the past is, as usual, difficult to hide from.

> **Miller is quite adept at [the] crime story, full of interesting characters, suspense, murder, sex, lies . . .**

Enter Ava, a former lover of Dwight's, and Manute, her bodyguard. Ava has some nasty secrets to spill about her husband and Manute... well, let's just say he is not looking for Dwight to take the type of pictures that you would show to your mother. The mystery builds from here (I obviously cannot tell you more as the rest of the series is still pending).

The sequel takes place over a long span of time, overlapping the first *Sin City* . It spotlighted a down and out detective named Marv, who had a tendency to shot people with his .45. Marv is also present in this story.

What makes these stories so good? It is the combination of Miller's writing and artwork. Miller is quite adept at writing an intriguing crime story, full of interesting characters, suspense, murder, sex, lies, and humour. His artwork on the series is also rather breathtaking. All of it is done in a stunning black-and-white. Whole shades of grey and thick smoke are present or at the very least are imagined. I could not imagine this story told in colour, as the black and white heightens the whole film noir effect. Miller is able to use the black and white to easily convey the emotions and vibrancy of the story. This is powerful storytelling at its best.

Other Recommended Works by Frank Miller:

The Dark Knight Returns, Give Me Liberty, Hard Boiled, RoboCop Vs The Terminator, Daredevil:The Man Without Fear.

Cover of issue 2 of Frank Miller's *Sin City*.

Mike's Music Fix

by Michael Barry
Staff

My Soul Is Wet Mutha's Day Out

Mutha's Day Out is another in a long line of American-Grunges-that-Stole-Christmas type bands that are rough-edged in outlook and in physical appearance, in a lower-middle class sense.

Mutha represents, to my poor perforated ears, yet another American Grunge-rock outfit that exploit the Jesus on the cross motif (remember **John Cougar Mellencamp**'s *Scarecrow* as Christ figure years ago and **Nirvana**'s Christ motif in their newest release, *Heart Shaped Box*); the list is a long and undistinguished one.

The song on ***My Soul Is Wet*** that best demonstrates this tendency is "Locked (Tear Me Down)," a prime example of Mutha cynically exploiting the central motif of Western Civilisation: The Late Great Jesus H. Christ, baby, and make it snappy. Other songs on this recording, like "My Soul Is Wet" and "We All Bleed Red," lyrically could have been written by Oral Roberts.

Musically this outfit, who are based in, you guessed it, Arkansas, can rock out with the best of them fine. Hailing from the buckle of the bible belt these here boys know their Christian iconography, but I swear on a stack of Simpson Sears catalogues that there is nothing new here musically. What you have here is Nirvana with grits and decipherable lyrics. Thumbs downski.

Colin James and the Little Big Band

One of the remarkable things about the Canadian record-buying public is their incredible ability to not only swallow whole but love fellow Canadian mediocrities in the musical field, especially in Blues and R and B. It is not always this way of course, but it happens with frightening regularity.

I guess it is a Canadian syndrome to sometimes embrace a self-effacing, lukewarm, medium-cool type like **Colin James**. I suppose mediocrity as represented by nice-boy-next-door guys like James is reassuring because he is not threatening anyone's ego and you can picture yourself doing the same things as he's doing on stage.

James' newest release from last year is called, ***Colin James and the Little Big Band***. It contains a wealth of blues, soul and R and B material. Some of it is written by James himself. Some of the songs are quite good, but on the whole the performances on almost every tune are reduced to the ordinary by James' seeming genius for delivering the most cliched vocalising and hackneyed we've-heard-it-all-before guitar riffing.

The only redeeming musical value of this disc is the horn section, provided by **Roomful of Blues**, whose playing is expert and provides the only interesting motifs on an otherwise lacklustre disc. The public will eat this lazy performer up. The tragedy is that most people buying this record will think this is representative of the blues-rock and bop field when there are much better groups around your locale, like at Grossman's on Spadina, any weeknight who could perform with more panache. All thumbs.

Aces and Kings:The Best of Go West Go West

What we have here is the absolute apotheosis of what used to be called in the 1970's, Soft Rock. Critics and reviewers like myself are always labelling groups and their music much to the chagrin of the groups being reviewed, but I would argue that many times it is a helpful way of indicating the style a group evokes and besides, it is fun.

As indicated by this greatest hits package, **Go West** produces the kind of sounds that could fit easily into any standard Hollywood movie; and golly gee, what we have here is commercialism gone mad as almost every other track on this greatest hits disc is culled from some dumb mainstream Hollywood movie soundtrack. From the movie *Pretty Woman* you have "The King of Wishful Thinking;" from *Rocky IV* you have "One Way Street;" from the movie *White Men Can't Jump* you have "Never Let Them See You Sweat," and son, it goes on and on. You get the picture, that is the movie picture.

To be fair there are a few good tunes that are not "soully" here to make a buck, like the excellent cover version of Smokey Robinson's "Tracks of My Tracks," and the song "The King is Dead." Even the songs that are not derived from movie soundtracks sound as if they were written for any shiny new mainstream Hollywood vehicle that comes along.

Basically what we have here is a somewhat paler version of the Kings of pale-faced Soul, Hall and Oates, without the melodic pop hooks. Once again, all thumbs.

Arts

Spotlight On: Jean-Claude Van Damme

by Jon Gundersen
Assistant Arts Editor

Born Van Varenberg, but changed to Van Damme because it had "a tougher sound," 32-year old **Jean-Claude Van Damme** has risen to be one of the greatest action stars of our day. He has also been said to be incredibly cocky, quite conceited, and a little self-contradictory.

In an interview conducted by **Dave Cater** of *Inside Kung-Fu*, Van Damme says "I don't think I'm a prisoner in my own home." Later in the same interview, however, when asked about his personal life, Van Damme says, "Most of the time I'm a prisoner in my own house. I don't get out much." Perhaps he is still getting a grip on his English.

When he first came to the United States in 1981, Van Damme spoke next to no English. This left him with only two career options at the time: a taxi cab driver, or a pizza delivery boy. He chose the latter, and worked for a few years before getting a break in the field of his dreams - acting. Van Damme landed his first role in 1985 as an "evil Russian" named Ivan in *No Retreat, No Surrender*.

Two years later, Van Damme impressed a Hollywood Producer named **Menaham Golan** by demonstrating a few fancy kicks to his face. Golan was quite impressed indeed, and Van Damme began work on his first feature film, *Bloodsport*, the next day (It is not recommended that you try this at home).

To anyone who had seen Van Damme on *Arsenio Hall* at this time, it was obvious that his English skills were still far from perfect. In his first appearance on Arsenio, after boldly throwing a kick at Arsenio's head, and doing the splits, Van Damme sat on the famous couch with a huge grin. He periodically winked at the audience, and now and then would even throw a kiss. Arsenio asked him several times about his karate skills, but never got a straight answer. Instead, just another wink at the "fans".

Van Damme goes for the Billy-Ray Cyrus look.

Van Damme had, in fact, always claimed to be a European karate champion, but *Black Belt* magazine was unable to find any record of such a title.

In 1989, **Don Wilson**, an American kickboxing champion and star of several films, including the *Bloodfist* series, challenged Van Damme to a 100,000 dollar bout. Van Damme, however, did not accept the challenge.

Van Damme has often been criticised for being careless during his action scenes. In one instance during the filming of *Cyborg*, Van Damme blinded a fellow actor in one eye for life. During a court trial, it was ruled that Van Damme came unnecessarily close with a kick, with the intention of making it look better. He was fined 500,000 dollars, but has filed an appeal.

Despite all of this, along with Van Damme's lame acting ability and strong accent, millions of fans avidly watch the "Muscles From Brussels" (Van Damme was born in Brussels, Belgium) in all of his films. Soon we will see whether he rises to enormous success as did **Bruce Lee**, or if he falls to the pits as it seems **Arnold Schwarzenegger** has. Van Damme did tell Arsenio that he wanted to make wider use of his acting talents in a comedy...

Chronology of Van Damme Films

No Retreat, No Surrender (1985) - A small role in this film about a boy (**Kurt McKinney**) who learns karate from the ghost of Bruce Lee.

Bloodsport (1987) - An excellent martial arts movie about Frank Dux and an illegal full contact tournament.

Cyborg (1988) - A post-nuclear war karate movie, pretty dull, but some excellent fighting choreography.

Black Eagle (1988) - Only a small role in this film as a KGB agent (Russian accent, French accent - Americans don't know the difference).

Kickboxer (1989) - My favourite, Van Damme learns muay Thai to avenge his brother's brutal injury in Thailand, excellent training scenes and nice scenery.

Death Warrant (1990) - As a detective from Quebec, Van Damme must infiltrate a prison to stop the murdering of inmates for their organs.

Lionheart (1990) - Van Damme must fight in an illegal fighting circuit to raise money for his brother's hospital bills.

Double Impact (1991) - Van Damme plays twin brothers separated at birth who put aside their differences and avenge their parents' murder.

Universal Soldier (1992) - Techno-military movie where Van Damme and **Dolph Lundgren** play soldiers revived as cyborgs.

Nowhere To Run (1993) - About 5 minutes of good motorcycle action, if you've seen the trailer, you've seen it all.

Hard Target (1993) - Critically acclaimed for **John Woo**'s directing, Van Damme tries a new style of martial arts action. Much slow motion.

Video Pick of the Week

Emil Fouchon (Lance Henriksen) and generic bad guys.

by Wes Grant
Arts Editor

Hard Target (1993)
Starring: **Jean-Claude Van Damme, Lance Henriksen, Yancy Butler** and **Wilford Brimley**.
Directed by **John Woo**.

Hard Target, which is being released this week on video, brings together action star **Jean-Claude Van Damme** with renowned action film director **John Woo**. The result is an explosively entertaining action film.

Van Damme is Chance, a down-on-his-luck New Orleans merchant sailor who uses his martial arts skills to battle a sadistic band of hunters who prey on homeless veterans in a deadly variation of safari. Chance becomes involved when he comes to the rescue of a young woman (**Yancy Butler**) whose father was a recent victim of the killers.

Lance Henriksen (*Aliens*, *Near Dark*) plays the chief hunter who will not rest until Chance is eliminated. **Wilford Brimley** (the Quaker Oats guy) is also on hand to provide a humour-filled performance as Chance's Cajun uncle.

This is an exciting action film to watch. Van Damme may not be a very good actor, but his performance works here. Henriksen is also quite chilling in his role as the villain.

Director John Woo (*The Killers*) has made a very entertaining film, and this is only his first North American feature.

Hard Target is a violent, exhilarating film that is a must-see for action fans. It is available on video later this week (on Wednesday). If you are in the mood for action, then *Hard Target* is the film to rent.

New to Video This Week

Coneheads: **Dan Aykroyd** and **Jane Curtain** reprise their old SNL skit in this comedy.

Forever: **Sean Young** and **Diane Ladd** star in this supernatural romance.

A Fugitive Among Us: **Eric Roberts** and **Lauren Holly** star in this docudrama about an escaped rapist and his detective nemesis.

Hard Target: See above review.

Hold Me Thrill Me Kiss Me: **Sean Young** and **Diane Ladd** (again?) in a comedy about trailer park weirdoes.

Jailbait: **C. Thomas Howell** has an affair with an underage hooker!!

Last Action Hero: Brutal. Do not waste your time.

Rookie of the Year: **Daniel Stern** (Marv in the *Home Alone* movies) directs and co-stars in this comedy about a preteen who joins the Chicago Cubs.

Opening This Week...

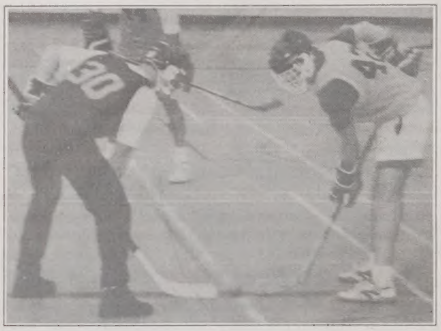
INTO THE WOODS

Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by James Lapine
Originally directed on Broadway by James Lapine

Performances January 27 to 29
and February 2 to 5, 1994
8 p.m.
Leigha Lee Browne Theatre
tickets:$8

Tickets on Sale in the Meeting Place
Groups of 15 or more recieve discount call
Call 287-7182 for more information

Sports



Indoor Soccer: Scarborough Splits Season Openers

By Laura Hawthorne
Assistant Sports Editor

The men's interfaculty indoor soccer team won their season opener on Monday, beating St. Mike's 4-1. Dominating the entire game, Scarborough's first goal was scored by **Rupinder Ahluwalia**; thanks to teammate **Jafar Amin,** who deked out the whole team and set up the rebound. Goal number two was scored by Jafar Amin on a breakaway, deking out the goalie and scoring into an open net. The lone St. Mike's goal was scored when the ball was deflected into the net by Scarborough's own **Sascha Larcher**. Larcher more than made up for it, when he scored the next two goals; one from the halfway line into the top left corner. The high level of skill displayed by all makes it difficult to pick a player of the game. Since **Jafar Amin** was neglected in the outdoor season, and he played an excellent game, he gets it this time.

The women's interfaculty indoor soccer team kicked off their season with a disappointing loss to St. Mike's on Wednesday. Mostly made up of veterans from the championship interfaculty outdoor soccer team, the girls played a respectable game, losing 3-1. St. Mike's made up for their lack of skill, playing a soccer version of the "Hanson Brothers" (from the movie Slapshot). The lone Scarborough goal was scored by **Cathy Parkinson,** on a penalty shot. Along with other excellent plays and hard work, Cathy earns player of the game honours. Good luck next Wednesday!

Intramural Standings

Ball Hockey

Division 'A'

1. Canucks - 4 pts
2. Detroit - 4 pts
3. Road Kill - 2 pts
4. No Names - 1 pt
5. SCAGS - 1 pt
6. SHAFT - 0 pts

Leading scorer:
Jason Argyris (Canucks) - 7 pts

Division 'B'

1. Road Runners - 4 pts
2. Porno Stars - 2 pts
3. Desi Tigers - 2 pts
4. Billy - 2 pts
5. Bruins - 1 pt
6. MM's - 1 pt
7. White Lightning - 0 pts

Leading scorers:
Greg White (Road Runners)- 3 pts
Jason Gonsalves (Porno Stars) - 3 pts

Indoor Soccer

Division 'A'

1. Selects - 3 pts
2. KLAUTS I.N.U - 3 pts
3. Trojans - 2 pts
4. Magia Truenos - 2 pts
5. Spirit - 2 pts
6. A.C. Scorpions - 0 pts

Leading Scorer:
Rupinder Ahluwalia (Selects) - 3 goals

Division 'B'

1. Tigers Troop - 3 pts
2. Novelty - 3 pts
3. SCAGS - 2 pts
4. T.B.A - 2 pts
5. No Limit - 2 pts
6. H.K. Utd - 0 pts
7. VWB Crew - 0 pts

Leading Scorers:
Calvin Lo (No Limit) - 4 goals
Geof (T.B.A) - 4 goals

Blades On a Roll

Stephanie Watson-Fischer
Staff

The Blades played their most physical game to date, as they took on arch rivals **Erindale.** This game had everything, well almost everything. Penalties on both sides, flying sticks, knock 'em down, rough and tumble along the boards - all this in a non-contact league!

Yes, the Blades were out to show Erindale that they would not be beaten this time. In the past few years, Erindale has knocked Scarborough out, in the finals. This was an important game. Erindale scored the game's first goal, early in the first period. Scarborough equalised, on a shot by rookie **Stephanie Tom,** minutes later. At half time the score was still tied 1-1.

Although penalised for much of the second half, the Blades held off the Erindale onslaught, with phenomenal defensive play. Offensively, Scarborough was equally outstanding. The game ended in a 1-1 tie.

Way to play Blades. Thanks to all our fans, who came out for our last night game of the year. For those readers who are "morning people" or of Scottish descent, you can catch our next game on January 25 (Robbie Burns Day), at 7 am, when the Blades play Skule.

CIAU Top 10 (for week of January 18)

(previous ranking in parentheses)

Men's Basketball

1. McMaster	(2)
2. Alberta	(1)
3. Victoria	(3)
4. Concordia	(5)
5. Brandon	(6)
6. Winnipeg	(4)
7. UPEI	(8)
8. Brock	(7)
9. Laurentian	(NR)
10. Manitoba	(NR)

Women's Basketball

1. Winnipeg	(1)
2. Laurentian	(2)
3. **Toronto**	**(3)**
4. Western Ontario	(4)
5. Manitoba	(5)
6. McGill	(6)
7. Victoria	(7)
8. Calgary	(NR)
9. Lethbridge	(10)
10. St. Francis Xavier	(NR)

Ice Hockey

1. Acadia	(2)
2. Calgary	(3)
3. Lethbridge	(1)
4. Wilfred Laurier	(5)
5. Regina	(10)
6. UQTR	(4)
7. Western Ontario	(6)
8. Dalhousie	(7)
9. Alberta	(8)
10. Ottawa	(9)

Men's Volleyball

1. Manitoba	(1)
2. Laval	(2)
3. Calgary	(3)
4. Victoria	(4)
5. British Columbia	(5)
6. Winnipeg	(7)
7. Alberta	(6)
8. McMaster	(8)
9. Dalhousie	(9)
10. Queen's	(10)

Women's Volleyball

1. Winnipeg	(1)
2. Manitoba	(2)
3. Calgary	(3)
4. Montreal	(4)
5. Alberta	(5)
6. Laval	(6)
7. York	(7)
8. **Toronto**	**(8)**
9. Sherbrooke	(9)
10. Saskatchewan	(10)

Interfaculty Scores

Tuesday, January 18

Women's Volleyball (div. B) Vs. PHARM B (win 2-0)

Wednesday, January 19

Women's Basketball Vs. PHARM A (Default)
Women's Ice Hockey Vs. Erindale (Tie 1-1)
Men's Volleyball (div. A) Vs. FEUT (Win 2-0)
Women's Volleyball (div. A) Vs. Law (Win 2-1)
Women's Indoor Soccer Vs. SMC (Loss 3-1)

Upcoming Games

Tuesday, January 25

Women's Ice Hockey Vs. Skule
7 am @ Varsity Arena
Men's Basketball (div. A) Vs. MEDS
8 pm @ D/T: FHE1

Wednesday, January 26

Women's Volleyball (div. B) Vs. Innis
7:30 pm @ Scarborough
Women's Volleyball (div. A) Vs. PHARM
9 pm @ D/T: SG3

Thursday, January 27

Women's Basketball Vs. SMEDS
7:30 pm @ Scarborough

Monday, January 31

Men's 4 on 4 Volleyball Vs. DEVO SOUTH
9 pm @ D/T: SG3

Sports

Sports Notes...

By Salim Rajwani
Sports Editor

–**Andrea Hutchens** of the University of Winnipeg is this week's CIAU **female athlete of the week.** The **male athlete of the week**, is Ryerson basketball player **Alex Beason.**

–Both the men's and women's, **University of Toronto** swimming teams are ranked #1 in Canada.

–The **UofT** womens' basketball and volleyball teams are in the CIAU's top 10. The **basketball** team is #3 and the **volleyball** team is #8.

–The **U of T men's ice hockey** team is still in second place behind Guelph in the Mid East Division of the OUAA. The **women's ice hockey** team continues to lead the OWIAA.

Volleyball:

Scarborough Wins 3 of 4

By Laura Hawthorne
Assistant Sports Editor

Double Header Victory Leaves Scarborough A's Undefeated

The women's Interfaculty 'A' volleyball team took on Law last Wednesday. Their stiffest competition - Law beat them out in the finals last year; Scarborough was out for revenge. Taking the first game 15-7, Scarborough was on its way. In a tight second game, Law won 15-9. Scarborough answered back, winning the third game convincingly, 15-5. Player of the game was **Amy Asghar**, who played an excellent game both offensively and defensively. The women remain undefeated.

The Men's Interfaculty A Volleyball team took on the Faculty of Education, last Wednesday. In a short but sweet match, the men proved that height and numbers, aren't always what counts. They won 15-11, 15-10. Quality play by core players – **Huuchi, Marty, Shawn** and **Rob**, is why the team remains with a pristine record of 7-0.

Scarborough Trounces Pharmacy

The women's Interfaculty 'B' volleyball team took on Pharmacy last Tuesday. Starting off slowly the girls took the first game 15-11, finishing off the game with an ace. The first game was just a warm-up, as the team went on to win the second game 15-1, finishing again with an ace. Player of the game was **Beth Klassen** (featured in this week's profile) with "He-Man" spikes. The 'B' team is now 2-0.

Trinity Defeats Scarborough

The men's Interfaculty 4 on 4 volleyball team started off their season on Monday against Trinity. The change from the traditional style of volleyball proved a little more difficult than expected. The men lost 15-11, 15-4. The men just needed that one game to get used to it. Good luck next Monday.

More Than Just A Pretty Face

By Laura Hawthorne
Assistant Sports Editor

Beth Klassen grew up on a farm in Lemington, Ontario. Perhaps this is where she got her down-to-earth and somewhat tomboyish spirit. Beth brings this spirit with her to all playing arenas. One can hear her laugh one minute and the next she is the tough competitor.

Participating in a multitude of interfaculty and intramural sports, Beth still finds time to volunteer at a school for autistic children. Beth has been a member of the women's Interfaculty outdoor soccer team, for the last two years. Both have been championship winning years. As well, she is a member of the women's Interfaculty indoor soccer team. She has also been a member of the women's Interfaculty 'B' volleyball team for the past two years. The 'B' team won the championship last year and this year their record is 2-0.

Deciding that soccer and volleyball weren't enough, Beth joined the women's Interfaculty ice hockey team this year. Putting her street hockey skills to use, she is the rookie goalie on the team. A rebuilding year, the team's record stands at 4-4-1. As well as playing interfaculty sports, Beth also plays intramural volleyball, indoor soccer and handball. Beth is a second year Linguistics major. Her plans for the future include playing sports for "lifelong fun."

LIFE SCIENCES REVIEW OPEN MEETING

Undergraduate students in Life Sciences programs and graduate students, faculty and staff of the Division of Life Sciences are invited to attend an open meeting of the Life Sciences Review Committee on WEDNESDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 1994, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Members of the Review Committee will present an interim report on their work and invite all students, staff and faculty of the Division to discuss with them the problems and issues facing the Division of Life Sciences over the next five years.

Questions about the Life Sciences Review Committee, or individual briefs to the Committee, should be directed to Ronald Manzer, Chair of the Committee (Office: R5243; Telephone: 287-7307; E-mail:manzer@epas.utoronto.ca).

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Quicklist

An upcoming events listing for the students of Scarborough Campus. Listings are free: call 287-7057, or drop by our offices, to add yours.

All clubs are welcome to bring us info on meetings!

Tuesday 25 January

S403 (Council Chambers) **10 am**
Resume writing: Seminar to improve your resume and cover-letter writing skills. Sign up in the Career Centre, S302.

Wednesday 26 January

H408 **5:15 pm**
The VCF weekly meeting. This week the guest speaker is Ross Tennant. All are welcome to join in.

H-310 **5:30 pm**
Yoga Club meeting: A general invitation to all students. Discussion on "Teaching of the Vedas".

Outside the Library **11 am to 2 pm**
Ticks for Sale, Cheap! Today and tomorrow, get discount tickets from the Music Club for all kinds of shows: **Showboat, Forever Plaid, Phantom, Crazy for You,** and many more.

Music Club **11 am to 2 pm**
Discount ticket boot will be outside the library. Shows available: Showboat, Forever Plaid, Phantom of the Opera, Crazy for You, Miss Saigon, Napolean, Madama Butterfly, La Traviata, and more. Available Wednesday and Thrusday.

Thursday 27 January

Leigha Lee Browne Theatre **8 pm**
Scarborough College Musical: Into the Woods. Tickets on sale in the Meeting Place. Attention clubs: groups of 15 or more receive a discount. Info, call 287-7189. Performances also Jan. 28 and 29, Feb. 2 to 5.

Teaching Studio **Noon**
Learn Tai Chi: Come out and learn how Tai Chi promotes health, fitness, self-defence and relaxation. $10 registration fee. Please register at the Athletic Service Counter.

Teaching Studio **5 pm**
Wen-Do: Classes in women's self-defence techniques every Thursday night until March 24. $10 registration fee. Register in advance at Service Counter.

Tuesday 1 February

Student Village Centre **5 pm**
Free Japanese concert "Kiri to Take" (Koto and Shakunachi). Sponsored by the Music Club, Student Village Coouncil, and Cultural Affairs Committee.

And... Just a Note: Interested in joining student government? Elections for next year's SCSC executive are fast approaching. Call 287-7047.